



# IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

## **MINUTES OF STATE WATER PLAN SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 11**

**C. L. "Butch" Otter**  
Governor

**Jerry R. Rigby**  
Chairman  
Rexburg  
At Large

**Terry T. Uhling**  
Vice Chairman  
Boise  
District 2

**Bob Graham**  
Secretary  
Bonners Ferry  
At Large

**Charles "Chuck"  
Cuddy**  
Orofino  
District 1

**Leonard Beck**  
Burley  
District 3

**L. Claude Storer**  
Idaho Falls  
District 4

**Gary M.  
Chamberlain**  
Challis  
At Large

**Lawrence "Vic"  
Armacost**  
New Meadows  
At Large

Shiloh Inn

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

July 18, 2008

12:30 pm. Working Lunch

The Chairman of the committee, Gary Chamberlain, called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Vic Armacost, Leonard Beck and Jerry Rigby were also present.

Staff members present were Hal Anderson, Administrator; Brian Patton, Bureau Chief of Planning; Helen Harrington, Planning Section Manager, and Patsy McGourty, Recording Secretary.

Guests in attendance were:

Lynn Tominaga, IGWA

### **Agenda Item No. 1, Introductions**

Introductions were made around the room.

### **Agenda Item No. 2. Discussion of Comments Received**

Ms. Harrington noted that comments from Idaho Trout Company had already been e-mailed to the Committee. The comments will be posted to the website next week.

### **Agenda Item No. 3., Status Update**

- a. Snake River Basin Policies - Ms. Harrington stated that staff was working with Deputy Attorney General Harriett Hensley on these draft policies. They are incorporating the history and original intent of the policies in the Comments section to provide better understanding. Mr. Rigby commented that in a current legal case a brief would soon be filed that would also contain this history.

- b. Resource Inventory – The Resource Inventory is in progress. A new staff economist, Kyle Stetler, was recently hired and he will be working on the Economy Chapter. Mr. Anderson brought up an issue for discussion. In meetings recently with Clive Strong of the Attorney General's Office, Mr. Strong stated that the State Water Plan should be completed before the ESPA CAMP process because it guides that process. The group discussed this issue. It was noted that the new format includes action items that require accountability. Mr. Armacost added that there could be new committee members in January since some Board member's terms expire and they are up for reappointment by the Governor. Those members are Vic Armacost, Leonard Beck, Claude Storer, and Terry Uhling. No decision was reached regarding schedule changes for either the ESPA or state plans.

#### **Agenda Item No. 4, Review of Basin Sections**

Ms. Harrington raised the question of including the Salmon-Clearwater Basins as a separate policy section from the Snake River. This is a change from the former State Water Plan. She provided maps that clearly defined the basins boundaries and noted that there are specific issues in each basin. The Nez Perce Agreement also separated these basins. The chairman polled the committee and they were all in favor of separating the Salmon-Clearwater Basins from the Snake River Basin in the new State Water Plan. Mr. Anderson stated that staff would brainstorm policies for these basins to bring back to the next committee meeting.

Ms. Harrington provided copies requested of Christian Petrich's presentation on Lime Point.

#### **Agenda Item No. 5, Review of Remaining Optimum Use Policies**

**1F – Ground Water Withdrawal** – Mr. Armacost asked if there was feedback from Jeff Peppersack since this policy is outdated on transfers. There was discussion about the issue of transfers are for appropriated water rights and the legality of the Board's transferring water for minimum stream flow for "unappropriated" waters. Ms. Harrington said staff are seeking an attorney general's opinion on this issue to formulate the Board policy. Mr. Rigby explained the issue in detail.

The committee discussed watermaster duties and policing. Mr. Anderson suggested that staff should study and documenting future rate of recharge should be included in the implementation actions. Changes were made.

Mr. Armacost suggested reorganizing the sections to bring Spring Flows after the Groundwater Section.

**1G – Interstate Aquifers** – The committee discussed the different issues between bordering states. There was also the issue of aquifer versus surface waters. The committee decided to stay with aquifers or ground water. There was discussion on reworking the comments and some changes were made.

**1H – Spring Flows** – The committee discussed the effects to spring flows. A number of studies are currently being done to quantify the groundwater to surface water relationships.

**1I – Water Measurement** – The committee discussed water measuring equipment and costs

**1J – Water Quality** – The committee discussed the section. Mr. Armacost thought that recognition should be made that the Department of Environmental Quality had the primary role in this effort for the state. A sentence was added to reflect that.

**1K – Pollution Control** – The committee discussed the policy history and made no changes.

**1L – Recharge** – The committee discussed the policy and the Board's leadership role in recharge. 1995 legislation funded the Board's recharge programs. Mr. Tominaga noted that there has been criticism of the Board that they are not able to move fast enough to facilitate recharge. He discussed other points of this issue. Mr. Armacost noted that no other entity is doing as much as the Board. Staff agreed to rewrite this policy before the next meeting.

**1M – Local Natural Flow Rental Pool** – The committee discussed the concept of this section.

#### **Agenda Item No. 6, Future Meeting Schedule**

The committee set the following dates and times for meetings in Boise:

August 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m.

October 6<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m.

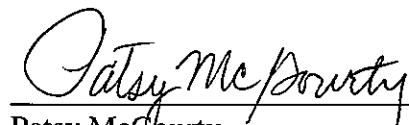
October 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m.

November 4<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m.

November 17<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 3:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned.

Dated this 22nd day of July 2008.

  
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Patsy McGourty  
Administrative Assistant II